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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

CHRISTIAN D. GARCIA  
STEPHANE VIRALLY  
STEVE ANYAN  
PATRICK BIXENMAN

Serial No.: 09/929,499

Filed: August 14, 2001

For: DEBRIS FREE VALVE APPARATUS

Confirmation No.: 9552

Group Art Unit: 3672

Examiner: Brian D. Halford

Attorney Docket: 2032.006196/DCD  
(68.0194CON)

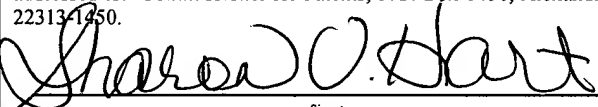
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APR 23 2004  
GROUP 3600

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION  
DATED JANUARY 20, 2004**

MS NON-FEE AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8	
DATE OF DEPOSIT:	April 16, 2004
I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as "FIRST CLASS MAIL" addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.	
 Signature	

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated January 20, 2004, for which the three-month date for response is April 20, 2004.

**Remarks** begin on page 3 of this paper.

If an extension of time is required to enable this paper to be timely filed and there is no separate Petition for Extension of Time filed herewith, this paper is to be construed as also constituting a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) for a period of time sufficient to enable this document to be timely filed.

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$110.00 for the fee under 37 CFR § 1.20(d) for the Terminal Disclaimer submitted herewith.

It is believed that no other fee is due; however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason, the Director is authorized to deduct said fees from Williams, Morgan & Amerson, P.C. Deposit Account No. 50-0786/2032.006196DCD.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.